

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is filed in response to the FINAL Office action dated September 11, 2007, and with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed on even date herewith. All objections and rejections are respectively traversed.

Claims 77-103 are pending.

Claims 77, 90 and 103 have been amended.

**Request for Examiner Interview**

The Applicant respectfully requests a telephonic interview with the Examiner after the Examiner has had an opportunity to consider this Amendment, but before issuance of the next Office Action. The Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached at 617-951-2500.

**Claim rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103**

At page 2 of the Office Action Claims 77-81, 83, 85, 86, 88, and 89 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chu et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,346,954 issued February 12, 2002, hereinafter ("Chu"), in view of Pisello et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,678,042, issued October 14, 1997 (hereinafter "Pisello").

The present invention, as set forth in representative claim 77, comprises in part:

77. A method for managing a computer network, comprising:  
operating a plurality of servers connected to the network, each server of the plurality of servers connected to one or more storage devices, each storage device of the one or more storage devices having one or more data storage disks;  
assigning selected storage devices of the one or more storage devices to a particular volume, the one or more storage devices assigned to a plurality of volumes;

*consolidating one or more selected volumes of the plurality of volumes into a group of volumes to produce a plurality of group of volumes;*  
*identifying a party interested in statistical information related to operation of a selected group of volumes;*  
*polling all volumes within the selected group of volumes of the plurality of groups of volumes, by a monitoring process, for statistical information;*  
*comparing the monitored statistical information to a threshold value to determine whether an event has occurred; and*  
*in response to determining that an event has occurred, notifying the interested parties.*

Chu discloses a system and method “for managing a RAID system that may have a number of drive arrays, each array including multiple disk drives.” (See Chu, Col. 1, Lines 30-35; Col. 6, Lines 33-34; and Fig. 3). Specifically, “there is a depicted array A frame 90 in a graphical user interface which provides an iconic representation of the data storage array A in response to user selections.” (See Chu, Col. 8, Lines 46-49; and Fig. 6). In Fig. 6, array A frame 90 graphically displays an “iconic representation of data storage array A including five physical drives ID1, ID2, ID3, ID4, and ID5 selected by the user.” (See Chu, Col. 8, Lines 50-54).

Pisello discloses a system and method for “providing a network management system having virtual catalog overview function for viewing of files distributively stored across a network domain.” (See Pisello, Col. 4, Lines 32-34). Specifically, the domain administrative server “snapshot collector 150.21 periodically scans the network and retrieves from the respective field exchange agents 119d-149d a respective set of standardized infrastructure status reports. (See Pisello, Col. 25, Lines 60-63). A reason for “maintaining asset management information within the infrastructure snapshots 150.11 is for purposes of performance evaluation.” (See Pisello, Col. 26, Lines 24-26). Thus, “when the network is expanded or the problematic equipment is replaced, the *system administrators* have an idea of which brands of equipment should be avoided and which should be preferred on a price/performance basis.” (See Pisello, Col. 26, Lines 35-28).

Applicant respectfully urges that neither Chu or Pisello disclose Applicant's claimed novel

*consolidating one or more selected volumes of the plurality of volumes into a group of volumes to produce a plurality of group of volumes;*  
*identifying a party interested in statistical information related to operation of a selected group of volumes;*  
*polling all volumes within the selected group of volumes of the plurality of groups of volumes, by a monitoring process, for statistical information;*  
*comparing the monitored statistical information to a threshold value to determine whether an event has occurred; and*  
*in response to determining that an event has occurred, notifying the interested parties.*

More particularly, Applicant respectfully urges that neither Chu nor Pisello discloses Applicant's claimed novel

*polling all volumes within the selected group of volumes of the plurality of groups of volumes, by a monitoring process, for statistical information;*  
*comparing the monitored statistical information to a threshold value to determine whether an event has occurred*

Differently, Chu discloses a system that displays an "iconic" representation of the physical disks within a storage array so that the user can view the composition of the data storage array. Thus, Chu **does not** determine if statistical information, obtained from volumes within a selected group of volumes of a plurality of volumes, exceeds a predetermined threshold value.

Pisello discloses a system and method that obtains status reports to analyze the reliability and performance of equipment such as server computers, disk drives, tapes/tape drives, and printers. The status reports assist the system administrators determine what equipment should be avoided and which should be preferred based on price and performance. Therefore, Pisello **does not** notify an interested party if it is determined that statistical information, obtained from volumes within a selected group of volumes of a plurality of volumes, exceeds a predetermined threshold value.

Different from the Chu Patent and the Pisello Patent, Applicant claims a system and method *consolidating one or more selected volumes of the plurality of volumes into a group of volumes to produce a plurality of group of volumes*. As set forth herein-above, the claimed invention *polling all volumes within the selected group of volumes of the plurality of groups of volumes, by a monitoring process, for statistical information*. *Comparing the monitored statistical information to a threshold value to determine whether an event has occurred*. *In response to determining that an event has occurred, notifying the interested parties*.

Applicant respectfully urges that the Chu Patent and the Pisello Patent, either taken singly or taken in any combination are legally insufficient to render the presently claimed invention obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 because of the absence in each of the cited patents of Applicant's claimed novel polling all volumes within the selected group of volumes of the plurality of groups of volumes, by a monitoring process, for statistical information; *comparing the monitored statistical information to a threshold value to determine whether an event has occurred*

All independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

All dependent claims are dependent from independent claims which are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, all dependent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account  
No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,

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